ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES OF THE 12TH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

Weogufka Baptist Association

HELD WITH

Poplar Springs Church, Chilton County, Alabama,
October 5th, 6th and 7th,

1893.

OFFICERS.

REV. J. T. NELSON, Moderator, Weogufka, Ala.
A. H. MERRELL, Clerk, Farmer, Ala.
ELIAS KELLY, Treasurer, Salter, Ala.

The next session of this Association will be held with Union Church, Coosa county, Alabama, five miles west of Rockford, on the Shaffer road, commencing on Thursday before the second Sabbath in October, 1894.

MINISTERS.

Ordained.

NAME.	POSTOFFICE.	NAME.	POSTOFFICE.
J. F. Watson,	Talladega Sprgs.	G. W. Crumpton,	Columbiana.
W. P. Hale,	Shelby.	Isaac Bice,	Verbena.
J. M. Todd,	Verbena.	J. R. Johnson,	Rollins.
W. J. Bone,	Marble Valley.	James Morris,	Marble Val.
C. W. Paschal,	Salter.	J. T. Nelson,	Weogufka.
W. W. Hughes,	Wetumpka.	W. S. Cox,	Jumbo.

J. W. Bone, Salter.

Licentiates.

Elias Mitchell,	Marble Valley.	J. J. Barber,	Prattville.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Hear Letters from the different Churches.
2. Call for Petitionary Letters from Churches wishing to unite.
3. Elect Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer.
4. Invite Visiting Brethren to seats.
5. Appoint Committees, to report during session, to Arrange Preaching, on Missions, on Finance and Auditing, on Documents and Requests, on Nominations, on Correspondence.
6. Call for Correspondence.
7. Have Rules of Decorum read.
8. Call Roll and erase absentees.
9. Hear Treasurer's Report and references.
10. Hear Circular Letters.
11. Hear Report on Sabbath-schools.
12. Return Correspondence.
13. Hear miscellaneous Resolutions.
14. Give Instructions about Appropriations.
15. Hear Reports of Committees.
16. Make arrangements for Printing Minutes.
17. Correct Minutes and Adjourn.

MINUTES.

The twelfth annual session of the Weogufka Baptist Association met with the Poplar Springs Church, Chilton county, Alabama, on Thursday, October 5, 1893.

The introductory sermon was preached by Brother J. T. Nelson, followed by Brother D. A. Seal. Text, 14th chapter of Zechariah, 6th, 7th and 8th verses.

After preaching, intermission of one hour for refreshments.

Called together by singing. Prayer offered by C. W. Hare.

Letters from the different churches were read by Brethren J. D. Hughes and C. W. Hare.

Delegates enrolled as follows (absentees marked thus *):

HOLLY SPRINGS: W. M. Meharg, S. J. Blackman, S. A. Deason, *J. M. Stanley, alternate.
NEW HOPEWELL: H. L. D. Phillips, *Wm. Harvey, *W. N. Keith, *A. R. Wells, alternate.
CANAAN: *H. J. Norris, Joel M. Dennis, *M. D. Pinson.
BAY SPRINGS: Joshua Davis, *A. Davis, *D. H. Davis.
NEW LIBERTY: F. A. Goolsby, Henry Kelly, T. P. Rogers.
CORINTH: James Wagner, J. A. Murphy.
PINE GROVE: J. L. White, J. B. Morris, A. Duke, *A. J. Baxley, alternate.
MACEDONIA: W. T. Franklin, J. S. Dennis, A. J. Ellison.
SARDIS: *J. W. Wright, Elias Kelly, R. M. Harris, *R. H. Martin, alternate.
BETHLEHEM: A. Z. Merrell, J. W. Jones, C. M. Williams.
MT. MORIAH: W. B. Callaway, *H. J. Taylor, *G. A. Harmon, *J. W. Varner, alternate.
UNION: *D. Bulger, *W. L. Whitworth, W. L. Dennis, W. E. Palmore.
REFUGE: Isaac Bice, James Glenn, J. M. Todd.
POPLAR SPRINGS: A. J. Foshee, J. B. Wells, J. W. Satterwhite, W. Ray, alternate.
FRIENDSHIP: *W. W. Lowery, *M. B. Dozier, T. J. Dozier.

Received by petitionary letter:

NEWSITE: T. J. Bazemore, G. W. Bazemore, J. H. Bailey.
NOT REPRESENTED: Coosa River, Mountain Springs, Paint Creek, Shelving Rock, Weogufka.

Officers were elected as follows: J. T. Nelson, Moderator; A. H. Merrell, Clerk; Elias Kelly, Treasurer.

C. W. Hare presented correspondence from Unity Association.

Committees were appointed as follows to report during this session:

On Arrangement: J. L. White, J. W. Jones, W. B. Callaway, with delegates from Poplar Springs church.
On Missions: Isaac Bice, Bennett Morris, H. W. C. Kelly.
On Finance and Auditing: Elias Kelly, J. Davis, T. J. Dozier.
On Documents and Requests: R. M. Harris, N. H. Henderson, H. L. D. Phillips.
On Nominations: A. Z. Merrell, J. M. Tyler, James Glenn.
On Correspondence: F. A. Goolsby, T. P. Rogers, T. J. Bazemore.
On Sabbath-Schools: S. A. Deason, J. A. Murphy, C. M. Williams.
On Temperance: Isaac Bice, A. D. Duke, W. T. Franklin.
On Queries: J. W. Wagner, J. S. Dennis, J. H. Bailey.

The Committee on Arrangement reported that Bro. J. D. Hughes would preach tonight at candle-lighting, followed by Bro. J. T. Hand, from second chapter of First Peter, 24th verse; tomorrow at eleven, preaching by Bro. D. A. Seal, followed by Isaac Bice.

SECOND DAY.

Prayer offered by Bro. J. T. Nelson.

Invited visiting brethren to seats with us.

On call received correspondence from Town Creek Association, represented by Rev. M. A. Morgan and J. H. Collins, bearing letter and minutes from said association; from Mulberry Association, represented by Rev. D. A. Seal; from Central Association, represented by Rev. J. D. Hughes.

The Rules of Decorum were then read.

Report of Committee on Sabbath-schools received and read as follows:

Your Committee on Sabbath-schools ask leave to report as follows: As we find but few of our churches reporting Sabbath-schools, we recommend that this Association give special attention to Sabbath-school work the ensuing year. We recommend the New Testament as our literature, although as a church is her own sovereign she can choose for herself. S. A. Deason, Chairman.

Adopted.

Adjourned for preaching. The stand was occupied by Bro. D. A. Seal, followed by I. Bice. Text: first chapter of Paul's Letter to the Thessalonians, 8th verse.

The Committee on Arrangement reported the stand to

be occupied as follows: by Bro. J. M. Dike, followed by Bro. M. A. Morgan. Text, 3d chapter and 8th verse of the General Epistle of John. At candle-lighting, by Bro. Wm. Hughes, followed by Bro. J. D. Todd. Text, 6th chapter of Luke, 46th verse.

Adjourned to meet tomorrow morning at 9 o'clock.

THIRD DAY.

The body was called together and prayer offered by Bro. Joshua Davis.

Committee on Arrangement reported as follows: Service at 9:30 by Bro. J. M. Todd, followed by Bro. Joseph Hame; at 11 by Bro. M. A. Morgan.

Moved and carried that the Weogufka Association shall meet on Thursday before the second Sabbath in October annually, and this shall be entered in the Rules of Decorum, making the 15th section of the Decorum.

The next session of the Association will be held with Union Church, Coosa county, Alabama, five miles west of Rockford, on the Shaffer road.

The First District meeting will be held at Pine Grove Church, Coosa county, on Friday before the second Sabbath in July, 1894.

The Second District meeting will be held at Macedonia Church Friday before the fourth Sabbath in July, 1894. Introductory sermon to be preached by M. A. Seal, followed by I. Bice.

Report of the Committee on Correspondence:

Your Committee recommend that we correspond with our churches quarterly and with all associations and churches that agree with our Articles of Faith and Practice. We further recommend that we pay the expenses of our delegates to and from where they are sent. F. A. Goolsby, Chairman.

Tabled.

Moved and carried that we return correspondents as follows: To Town Creek Association, which will meet with Lovelace Church, four and a half miles east of Porterville, on Saturday before the fourth Sabbath in September, 1894. Brethren Isaac Bice, J. T. Nelson and J. W. Satterwhite agree to go. To the Central, which will meet with Lebanon

Church, eleven miles above Wetumpka, Elmore county, on Jackson trace. R. M. Harris, W. B. Callaway and W. L. Dennis agree to go. To Shelby, to be held with Mars Hill Church, two miles from Oxmoor, Jefferson county, commencing on Wednesday before the first Sabbath in September, 1894. A. H. Merrell and C. M. Williams agree to go. To Mulberry, to be held with Mars Hill Church, Chilton county. J. A. Murphy, A. J. Foshee and W. T. Franklin. To Unity, to be held with Mount Church, Chilton county. J. Davis, J. W. Wagner and J. S. Dennis.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

Committee on Finance report as follows:

Received for minutes	$18 50
For associational purposes	8 30
For postage	85
Total	$27 65

Committee on Documents and Requests:

We find that only 15 churches have been represented, 3 holding prayer-meetings and Sabbath-schools; average attendance not reported. We recommend that our churches organize home mission societies, and that each send the number, officers and supplies of its school, as it is impossible for the committee to render a correct report without such aid. We also recommend that a fund be raised sufficient to authorize a traveling minister to preach in our bounds and on our borders a part or all of the year.

R. M. Harris, Chairman.

Adopted.

Committee on Missions:

We recommend that our ministers supply the destitute places in our bounds and on our borders; also that our churches do more for their pastors, to enable them to go farther and preach more.

J. B. Morris, Chairman.

Adopted.

Committee on Temperance:

Inasmuch as the use of spirituous liquors is a growing evil and of no special benefit, but is causing dissensions both in our churches and our communities, we recommend that our churches endeavor to use their influence, after a Godly manner, to stop the practice of liquor-drinking as a beverage. I. Bice, Chn.

Committee on Nominations:

Brother Isaac Bice to preach the introductory sermon, followed by Bro. W. P. Hale, at the next meeting of this Association, and Bro. J. T. Nelson to write the circular letter.

A. Z. Merrell, Chairman.

Committee on Queries:

We have nothing to report to the body.

J. S. Dennis, Chairman.

The Treasurer reported:

Received for minutes	$18 50
For associational purposes	8 30
For postage	85
Total	$27 65

ELIAS KELLY, Treasurer.

Ordered that the Clerk have minutes printed to the amount of $18.50, and that balance on hand be contributed to the Clerk for his services. Also ordered that the Clerk reserve fifteen copies of the minutes to send to the Town Creek Association.

We, the members of Weogufka Association, tender our thanks to Poplar Springs Church and community for their hospitality and kindness toward us while in their midst. A. D. DUKE, Chn.

I hereby acknwoledge as received of Elias Kelly, Treasurer of Weogufka Association, $27.65. This, Oct. 7, 1893.

A. H. MERRELL, Clerk.

We hereby acknowledge as received from the Clerk of Weogufka Association $18.50, for which we have printed 500 copies of the minutes of said Association. ADVOCATE PUBLISHING CO.

RESOLUTIONS.

Resolved, 1. We deny and demur any right the Alabama Convention has assumed over us in taxation and otherwise; we do not expect to conform to its dictation nor that of the State Board.

2. We denounce all Sabbath school literature, expositions and expositors that are inveighing against feet-washing in connection with the communion.

3. We denounce as unscriptural and unbaptistic the non-intercommunion sentiment, and recommend to our churches communion with each other, holding to the faith first delivered.

4. We hold to that translation of the Scriptures received from our fathers in Israel, under which our churches were constituted and our ministers ordained.

5. We solicit correspondence with all associations and churches that agree with us in our articles of faith.

6. That this Association be divided into two districts: the first district to be composed of Sardis, Union, Mt. Moriah, Weogufka, Canaan, Poplar Springs, Coosa River, Macedonia and Paint Creek; the second to be composed of Shelving Rock, Holly Springs, Mountain Springs, Pine Grove, Bethlehem, Bay Springs, Friendship and Corinth.

7. That our ministry supply the destitution in our bounds and on our borders.

CIRCULAR LETTER.

What are the duties of a deacon? There are three sources from which we may get an answer to the question propounded, and by putting the information thus obtained all together we may get a

correct answer. The first of these is the Inspired Word, the second is church history and the meaning of the term deacon. Allow me to premise by saying that the institution of the office by the Holy Spirit in the churches of Jesus Christ indicates to us that there are some special duties for a deacon to perform. It is therefore important that the deacon should study the word with great care and with a teachable mind, and earnestly inquire, "Lord, what wilt thou have me do?" First, as to what scriptures teach about this office of the church. In Acts, 6th chapter, seven men were set apart by the apostles, having been chosen by the churches, for the purpose of serving tables in the care of the poor. This serving tables means simply taking charge of the financial department of the church and thus relieving the ministers of the word from the responsible and troublesome duty. It is reasonable, then, for us to believe that one of the duties of the deacon is to take control of the money matters of the church and manage them in such a way as to entirely relieve the preachers of all trouble in the matter; and we believe another duty of the deacon here taught is to look after and care for the poor of the church and see that none suffer while the others abound. The fact that deacons were set apart, or ordained, like the elders, by the laying on of hands conveys the idea of consecration, and we believe that he should even feel that it is his duty to be consecrated to the work of the gospel in the faithful discharge of all the duties pertaining to his office. Consecration, then, is the duty of the deacon. A capacity to rule is one of the qualifications laid down by the apostles in the third chapter of First Timothy. There could be no necessity for this unless the deacon was to have the rule over the church in co-operation with the bishop and subordinate to him. The service of ruling and giving directions, energy and zeal to the work of the church, in conjunction with the elders, is indeed the most important and prominent duty of the deacon taught in the word of God.

Secondly, as to what is taught by church history in relation to the duties of deacons, we give the sum and substance in a few words, without undertaking to quote from this source. Among all the ancient and modern churches, the duties imposed upon deacons in accord with the word of God were in a general way to look after the interest of the churches, in the care of the poor, in the support of the ministry, in visiting the sick, and in the propagation of the gospel. And there is no doubt that in the early churches there were deaconesses, or female deacons, to care for the women in the churches who needed help, as when sick, and when it might be indelicate for a deacon to serve them. The Church of Rome, with all her perversions of the scriptures, has ever held to the office of deacon to be for such service as indicated above, and everywhere deacons are regarded as correlative with bishop and constitute tho preacher's help. It is indeed regarded as a necessary part of the ministry and essential to its success, and it is an interesting fact in this connection that all the churches of this day have in them the office of deacon or its equivalent under another name, indicating that there are important duties incumbent upon that office which cannot be well imposed upon any other in the church, and history would bear us out in the idea that deacons of olden times, like some in our day, labored in exhortation and prayer, and purchased, as says the apostle, a good degree and great boldness in the faith, and there is nothing in the New Testament opposed to the idea of a deacon thus exercising in a church.

As to the meaning of the word deacon, this, like the word baptize, is not an English word, and I leave that for the Greek scholars to explain. We conclude, then, by saying that the deacons are to have the management of the finances of the churches, exercising themselves in the matter of collecting funds and distributing the same to the best advantage for the maintenance of the gospel at home, the sending it abroad, and for the care of the poor saints. They should exercise themselves in the control of the churches and see that none bring reproach upon the cause, exhorting the brethren to faith and good works, being examples to the flock. They should see that the ministry is supported by the churches, and so direct that the elders will be free, that they may give themselves wholly to the word.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1. This Association shall be composed of members regularly chosen by the Churches in our union, but in making appointments or assigning duties it shall be constitutional for the Association to appoint to any such duties any ordained minister, though such minister be not a delegate to this body.

ART. 2. The members so chosen shall produce letters from their respective churches certifying their appointment, together with the state of their churches since their last representation.

ART. 3. The members so chosen and convened shall be called the Weogufka Association.

ART. 4. This Association shall sit as an advisory council, and shall have no power to lord it over God's heritage nor infringe on the internal rights of the churches, but may withdraw from any church not orthodox in principle according to the Scriptures, and who shall fail to represent at an Association and shall fail to account for such failure at the next regular session.

ART. 5. Any church desiring admission into this union shall petition by letter and messengers, and if found orthodox shall be received by the Association by the Moderator giving the right hand of fellowship.

ART. 6. Any church having a public gift, before proceeding to license the same should call the gifts of two or more sister churches, or experienced members, to unite with the churches in conference to examine into the nature of the gift, and upon due approval license to be granted and reported at the next Association.

ART. 7. Every church in our union whose membership shall be one hundred or under shall be entitled to three delegates, and for every thirty-three over one hundred it shall be entitled to one additional delegate.

ART. 8. No query shall be taken into consideration in this Association except in cases of serious difficulty which cannot be settled by the churches nor messengers from other churches.

ART. 9. This Association may correspond with any Baptist benevolent institution it shall deem expedient.

ART. 10. This Association shall have a fund, supplied by the voluntary contributions of the churches, and all moneys thus contributed shall be transmitted from the churches by their messengers and paid over to the Committee on Finance. The committee shall be annually appointed, whose duty it shall be to receive in charge the Association funds and dispose of the same agreeably to order, and make at every session a fair and substantial report of their proceedings.

ART. 11. The officers of this Association shall be a Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer, to be elected from her own body.

ART. 12. Differences of opinion as to the benevolent institutions of the day shall never be made a question of fellowship in this body.

ART. 13. Amendments or alterations to this Constitution may be made at any regular session when two-thirds of the members are present.

ARTICLES OF FAITH, WITH PROOF TEXTS.

ARTICLE 1. We believe in one true and living God—the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, three in one. 1 John, 5:7; Matthew, 3:15–17; John, 14:16; Matthew, 28:19.

ART. 2. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the word of God and the only rule of faith and practice. 2 Timothy, 3:16–17; 2 Peter, 1:19–21.

ART. 3. We believe in the doctrine of original sin, and that Adam disobeyed God, and that all mankind have inherited a sinful nature from Adam. Genesis 3:1–7; Psalms, 51:5; Romans, 5:12; Ephesians, 2:1.

ART. 4. We believe in man's inability to recover himself from the fallen state he is in by nature by himself alone. Zechariah, 4:6; John 6:44; 2 Corinthians, 41:14; Romans, 7:7–8.

ART. 5. We believe in the doctrine of election by grace according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth. Romans, 11:5; 2 Thessalonians, 2:13; 1 Peter, 1:2.

ART. 6. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God only by the imputed righteousness of Jesus Christ. Acts, 13:39; Romans, 4:11, 12, 23–25; Gallatians, 2:16.

ART. 7. We believe in the perseverance of the saints. Psalms, 25:23, 2–, 28; Micah, 7:8; John, 5:24 and 10:28; Romans, 8:35, 39; 1 Peter, 1:36.

ART. 8. We believe that Baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of Jesus Christ, and inasmuch as he washed his disciples' feet we ought also to wash one another's feet; and that none but true believers are fit subjects for these ordinances. John, 1:33; Matthew, 3:13–17; Matthew, 27:19–20; Acts, 1:22, 3:41; 1 Corinthians, 11:23–26.

ART. 9. We believe in one Lord, one faith and one baptism—and immersion only is baptism. Ephesians, 4:5; Romans, 6:3; Colossians, 2:12; Acts, 2:3; Mark, 1:9.

ART. 10. We believe that no one is qualified to preach or administer the ordinances of the gospel except he be called of God, as was Aaron, is set apart by and is in good standing with the church of which he is a member, and has come under the hands of the presbytery. Mark, 3:14; Acts, 14:23; 1 Timothy, 2:7, 5:23; Hebrews, 5:4; John, 4:2; Acts, 3:23.

ART. 11. We believe in the resurrection of the dead and the general judgment. John, 5:28–29; Revelations, 2:12, 28; Acts, 24:15.

ART. 12. We believe the joys of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked will be eternal. Matthew, 25:46; Revelations, 7:15; Thessalonians, 5:17; Thessalonians, 1:79; Revelations, 20:10, 14, 15; Matthew, 25:41, 43.

STATISTICS OF WEOGU[illegible]OCIATION, 1893.

Church	County	Pastor	Clerk	Clerk's P[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Increase by			Decrease by			Present Membership	Funds Contributed			
					[illegible]	[illegible]	Letter	Experience	Restoration	Letter	Exclusion	Death		For Min'tes	For Associational Purp.	For Postage	Total
Bay Springs	Shelby	D. A. Seal	J. Davis	Shelby			2	3		2			1	55	$1 25			$ 1 25
Bethlehem	Shelby	H. C. Tall	W. S. Merrell	Farmer			2	1						64	1 00	$ 50		1 50
Canaan	Chilton	Jas. C. Thomas	M. D. Pinson	Mt. Creet		4	2				1			27	1 00	1 75		2 75
Corinth	Chilton	James Hewett	F. M. Willis	Jumbo	1	15		2					1	16	50	50		1 00
Coosa River	Coosa					41								41				
Friendship	Coosa	J. D Hughes	T. J. Dozier	Marble Valley	3	30		1		1				32	1 00		10	1 10
Holly Springs	Coosa	J. T. Nelson	S. A. Deason	Weogufka	3	68	7	6			5	2	1	72	1 50		10	1 60
Mt. Moriah	Coosa	J. T. Nelson	G. A. Harmon	Moriah	1	59	3	5		1	5	1		63	1 25		25	1 50
Macedonia	Chilton	J. E. Champion	A. J. Ellison	Jumbo	4	49	9			6	4	2		58	1 00	50	10	1 60
Mountain Springs	Talladega					18								18				
New Liberty	Autauga	Isaac Bice	W. E. Boone	Bozeman	3	27		7	10	2		1	1	46	1 00	2 00		3 00
Pine Grove	Coosa	J. T. Nelson	A. D. Duke	Marble Valley	2	30	2	1						33				
Paint Creek	Coosa					25								25				
Poplar Springs	Chilton	A. L Foshee	J. J. McDowell	Cooper Stat'n.	4	67	5	3			4			71	1 25	1 25		2 50
Sardis	Coosa	C. W. Paschal	Albert Kelly	Salter	1	29	3			4	3			37	1 00		10	1 10
Shelving Rock	Talladega					18								18				
Union	Coosa	J. D. Hughes	W. E. Palmore	Salter	2	60		7	9	2	6			74	1 85			1 85
Weogufka	Coosa					17								17				
New Hopewell	Shelby	D. A. Seal	H. L. D. Phillips	Shelby Sprgs		30		1	5	1	2	3	1	37	1 00	25		1 25
Refuge	Elmore	Isaac Bice	J. M. Todd	Verbena		11		3		1				11	1 10	1 65		2 75
Newsite	Coosa	W. W. Hughes	G. W. Bazemore	Weogufka	4	5	11			5				21	1 25			1 25
Totals						683	46	40	24	25	30	9	5	706	$18 50	$8 30	85	$27 65

21

135
44
91

44

130
836

RULES OF DECORUM.

1. The Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer shall be chosen by a majority of the members of the body and shall hold their offices until another election. To be elected annually.

2. It shall be the duty of the Moderator to preside over the deliberations of the Association and keep order by enforcing the rules of decorum. He shall not be allowed to vote except in case of a tie, in which case he shall give the casting vote.

3. It shall be the duty of the Association: First, to provide for the general union of the churches, and to devise ways and means for the spread of the gospel and the promotion of our Redeemer's kingdom upon earth; second, to maintain correspondence with sister Associations, and thus preserve a chain of communication among the churches; third, to give advice to the churches in case of difficulty; fourth, to invite visiting ministers of our faith and order to seats with us and to aid in our deliberations.

4. At each annual session there shall be appointed by the Association an Executive Committee, consisting of———, to whom shall be referred all matters touching the spread of the gospel in our bounds, and to report thereon at the next session of the Association.

5. There shall be appointed, as in the last preceding article, a Committee of Finance, to whom all funds sent up by the churches to the Association shall be paid, whose duty it shall be to report thereon during the session.

6. No motion shall be entertained by the Association until it shall have been seconded; it shall then be taken up and opened for debate and finally decided, unless withdrawn by the mover.

7. Every query sent up to this Association by any one in the union shall be read and put to a vote by the Moderator whether it shall be debated; and if there be a majority in its favor it shall be taken up and investigated, but if not it shall be withdrawn. Provided, always, that those be first considered which may affect the union of the churches.

8. Every member who speaks shall rise from his seat and address the Moderator. He shall not be interrupted while speaking unless he depart from the subject.

9. No member shall speak more than three times on the same subject unless by leave of the Association.

10. There shall be no talking, whispering or moving about during the time of any public discussion, nor any reflection cast upon a speaker.

11. Any delegate wishing to leave the Association before its adjournment shall be required to make the cause known and to obtain leave of absence by vote of the body; and if any delegate shall absent himself without leave he shall be considered guilty of disorder and his name erased from the list of delegates.

12. A member violating any of these rules shall be reproved by the Moderator.

13. These Rules of Decorum shall be read at each annual session of the Association immediately after its organization.

14. These Rules of Decorum may at any regular session be altered or amended, a majority of the body concurring therein.

15. This Association shall meet on Thursday before the second Sabbath in October annually.